MARVEL

41

LGY#935

GANG WAR

the AMAZING SPIDER-MAN

WELLS
ROMITA JR.
HANNA
MENYZ

GANG WAR

TERRITORIES

PETER PARKER HAS THE PROPORTIONAL SPEED, STRENGTH, AND AGILITY OF A SPIDER, ADHESIVE FINGERTIPS AND TOES, AND THE UNIQUE PRECOGNITIVE AWARENESS OF DANGER CALLED "SPIDER-SENSE"! AFTER THE TRAGIC DEATH OF HIS UNCLE BEN, PETER PARKER UNDERSTOOD THAT WITH GREAT POWER THERE MUST ALSO COME GREAT RESPONSIBILITY. HE BECAME THE CRIMEFIGHTING SUPER HERO CALLED…

the AMAZING SPIDER-MAN

GANG WAR

The Gang War rages on! Spidey's allies have scattered across the city to take down all the gangs vying for territory. But fighting directly at Spider-Man's side is his most unexpected ally yet, **TOMBSTONE**. Along with She-Hulk, the unlikely duo took down the Tracksuit Mafia before they could gain their footing. Meanwhile, **MADAME MASQUE** took her moves out of the shadows, finally revealing to the Maggia that she took out all three of their bosses, **SILVERMANE**, **COUNT NEFARIA**, and **HAMMERHEAD**, and announced she was in charge now.

Farther uptown, Tombstone's daughter, **BEETLE**, made a move for the **DIAMONDBACK's** uptown territory, but found she had made her move just a moment too late and the son of Wilson Fisk **THE ROSE** had already taken it for himself. To protect his daughter from biting off more than she can chew, Tombstone has called a meeting with **KINGPIN** to see if these fathers can rein their children in.

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THERE'S A *GANG WAR* GOING ON.

THE CITY'S ON FIRE.

TOMBSTONE IS HELPING ME PUT IT OUT. HE KNOWS THIS WORLD.

AND HE'S MADE ONE THING ***CLEAR.*** WHEN...

THE KINGPIN.

...WANTS TO TALK, YOU ***LISTEN.***

PLEASE, LONNIE. CALL ME ***WILSON.***

WHAT CAN I DO FOR YOU, WILSON.

I'M GLAD YOU ASKED.

I'M HERE BECAUSE MY SON HAS BEEN DRAWN INTO YOUR WAR.

HE'S MAKING A PLAY FOR TERRITORY... AND REVENGE.

IF THE ROSE WANTS REVENGE, YOU CAN TELL HIM I'M RIGHT HERE.

IT'S NOT THAT SIMPLE. HE'S GOING AFTER YOUR FAMILY.

HE IS HIS FATHER'S SON, AFTER ALL.

ME?

IS SHE LOOKING AT ME?

JANICE? I'D PICK HER TO WIN THAT FIGHT *ALL DAY.*

THAT'S WHY I'VE SENT AN ARMY OF HELLFIRE TROOPS TO MAKE SURE THIS GOES MY WAY.

I'VE INVESTED A LOT OF TIME AND ENERGY IN THE BOY. I CAN'T LEAVE ANYTHING TO CHANCE.

Mwah.

ME?

I CAN'T TELL.

SO YOU CAME HERE TO ASK ME TO STAY OUT OF IT.

GONNA TAKE A LOT MORE THAN *ASKIN'.*

THESE THINGS TAKE WHAT THEY *TAKE*, DON'T THEY?

NO ONE LEAVES UNTIL THE DEED IS DONE.

WHO IS SHE *POINTING* AT?

I DON'T KNOW. SHE'S FREAKING ME OUT.

HEE HEE. YOU'RE CUTE.

DAMMIT, TYPHOID!!! HAVE SOME RESPECT!

=snicker!=

THANK YOU! THAT WAS...

CONFUSING.

WHY DO YOU ACT LIKE THIS?!

BECAUSE IT MAKES YOU CRAZY.

AND YOU FIGHT SO GOOD WHEN YOU'RE *CRAZY.*

HERE HE COMES.

CALL OFF YOUR MEN, FISK.

COME MAKE ME, LINCOLN!

GYARRRGHH!!!

DON'T YOU GUYS MOP THE FLOORS AT THE HELLFIRE CLUB?

HOPE YOU WASHED YOUR HANDS!

THIS IS CUTE, BUT I HAVE TO LEVEL WITH YOU...

...YOU'RE GONNA NEED MORE MEN.

HA. THAT'S RARELY THE ANSWER.

BURN FOR ME!

AIIEEEEE!

HARLEM'S *MINE*, FISK. YOU WANT IT, YOU HAVE TO GO THROUGH ME.

GOING THROUGH YOU IS THE POINT, *LINCOLN.*

I WANNA BE ABLE TO TELL YOUR POPS HOW *SCARED* YOU WERE WHEN *DIGGER* TORE YOU APART.

I DON'T DRESS LIKE THIS TO *GET* SCARED, FISK.

IF *POOR MAN'S BRUCE BANNER* THERE IS TOO DUMB TO KNOW HE'S OUTNUMBERED, THAT'S HIS PROBLEM.

DUMB?!

LET US AT 'ER, BOSS!

GO! WHY DO YOU THINK I *BROUGHT* YOU?!

EVERYBODY BETTER WATCH HOW THEY'RE TALKING TO US!

CRASH

TOO CLOSE, FISK.

TOO...

KRAK

...CLOSE!

CRACK

YOUR HEART'S IN IT.

GOOD!

CRACK!

WHY DID I GET STUCK WITH THE GRUNTS?!

IT'S OKAY, BABY. I'LL BE RIGHT THERE.

AH AH AH AH!

STAY STILL!

YOU'RE LUCKY NEW YORK HAS GOOD SAMARITAN LAWS.

WHOOSH

GAAAH!

OW! OW!

YEAH, I'M NOT TOO HAPPY ABOUT IT EITHER.

WHAP WHAP WHAP

BUZZ-KILL!

OKAY, I'M OFFICIALLY OVER YOU.

WATCH THE SWORD, JEN!

YES, "JEN." GET A *GOOD* LOOK.

NICE TRY.

FIRST TIME FIGHTING A GAMMA-IRRADIATED--?

ADAMANTIUM-DIPPED EDGES. IT WAS A GIFT.

PAYS TO HAVE YOUR ANNIVERSARY ON *KRAKOA*.

OW?

SLOW DOWN, UGLY.

YOU DON'T GET TO FIGHT JUST *ONE* OF US.

FINE BY ME!

COME HERE!

HEY!

EASY, JERK!

YOU JUST START *GRABBING APPENDAGES?!*

HOW *DARE* YOU?!

BU--

I THOUGHT WE WERE FIGHTING!

WE ARE NOW, #$%&#%#$%&!

DIE!

SSHHHZZARRRKKK

GAAAAHHHH!

SORRY, LADIES, WE'RE ALREADY DEAD!

OOF!

WATCH IT!

ALL YOU DID WAS PUT US IN A BAD MOOD!

AAAH!

BUT DON'T THINK WE FORGOT ABOUT YOU!

WHACK!

WHA--?

CRASH

ARGH!

I HAVE A MESSAGE FOR YOUR DAD.

BLAM BLAM BLAM BLAM BLAM BLAM BLAM BLAM BLAM BLAM

YOU'RE GONNA NEED MORE THAN BULLETS.

I SEE.

CRACK

NOT ANYMORE.

DOWNTOWN IS STILL A TOSS-UP BETWEEN *SHANG-CHI* AND *MR. NEGATIVE*... THOUGH I COULD SEE *LADY YULAN SURPRISING US.*

I'VE CONSOLIDATED CRIME-MASTER'S TERRITORY, BUT TOMBSTONE'S DAUGHTER IS UP AGAINST THE ROSE FOR CONTROL OF EVERYTHING NORTH OF CENTRAL PARK...

EXCUSE ME...

ARE YOU USING MY *HEAD* AS A *PAPER-WEIGHT?!*

YES.

LINCOLN HAS AN ARMY AND THE STREET CRED TO LEAD.

SHE GETS THE REST OF HARLEM AND SHE'S GONNA BE A PROBLEM.

SHE'S *NOT* GETTING HARLEM.

THE KINGPIN'S BACK IN TOWN. HE'S NOT GOING TO LET HIS SON GET KILLED.

FAIR OR NOT, THE ROSE IS GOING TO WIN. IT'S GOING TO BE HOUSE OF FISK VERSUS HOUSE OF NEFARIA.

COME, FATHER.

I MAY HAVE A USE FOR YOU YET.

IS THAT ALL YOU HAVE, LONNIE?

COME ON! WE USED TO BE MUSCLE!

HAVE WE GONE SOFT?!

CRACK

DO WE STILL HAVE IT?!

CRACK

SHOW ME!

KRAK

YES!

CRUNCH

NOW WE'RE GETTING SOMEWHERE!

CRUNCH

THAT'S ENOUGH!

THWP

OOPS, I STEPPED ON A *RIB.*

CRACK

GAAAH!

I'VE GOT THIS.

HAVE YOU TOLD *YOUR TEETH?*

THAT'S ENOUGH, BOY...

...THE *GROWN-UPS* ARE TALKING.

GAAAAH!

GYARRRGHHH!

AH, YOUR FRIEND LOOKS A LITTLE NOT ON FIRE.

¡QUEMAR!

GAAAAH!

HOLD ON, SPIDEY!

GOT YOU.

JEN, LOOK OUT!

WHAT--?

Hnnng.

BEFORE?

I WAS FLIRTING WITH SPIDER-MAN, YOU UGLY #$%&.

KRAK!

AAAAAH!

YEAH, WELL, YOU'RE GONNA NEED MORE THAN *MAKEUP* TOMORROW...

...AND I'LL HEAL IN A *FEW SECONDS.*

SLRCH

HNNF!

WOLVERINE WAS RIGHT... YOU GUYS ARE THE *WORST!*

CRACK

THUD

Guh--

CRACK

OOF--

THUD

T-TAKE IT *EASY,* SUGAR!

SEE, THAT'S WHY YOU'RE IN TROUBLE...

I AM.

ALL RIGHT, GIRLS. FINISH THIS UP, OR I'M GONNA HAVE TO DO IT MYSELF.

YOU GOTTA UNDERSTAND, FISK.

CRACK

GARK--

I DON'T GIVE A #$%& WHO YOUR DAD IS.

I'M TAKING WHAT'S MINE.

THOK

AND I'M TAKING IT--

WHAT'S THAT?

RUMBLE RUMBLE RUMBLE

LIGHT 'EM UP!

CRASH

DNC DNC DINGALING LING

DNC DNC DINGALING LING

SOMEONE GETTING A CALL.

HA HAHAHA.

THAT'S *GOOD NEWS* IS WHAT THAT IS.

HA AHAHAHA!

GOOD NEWS?

IF...IF YOU'LL EXCUSE ME...

I'VE GOT TO TAKE THIS.

HELLO?

I SEE.

TH

IT'S OVER.

THANK YOU.

TO BE CONTINUED!

HEY THERE, WEB-HEADS!

How about that John Romita Jr., eh? I mean, come on. It's so great seeing him draw Kingpin and Typhoid again. And no one does fights like Johnny. What a golden age we get to live in for there to be another run of JRJR!!! Hope you're all doing well out there. It's a scary world, so we hope that we can help maybe take your mind off it for a bit.

We're halfway through our "Gang War" issues of AMAZING SPIDER-MAN! Hope you're picking up a few of the other "Gang War" tie-ins. We're having a ton of fun making them all. We also had a blast with ASM #36, which you all wrote the letters below about!

Dear Nick and Spidey-Office,

Please give a big thank-you from me to Zeb Wells and Ed McGuinness for bringing back Rek-Rap, who was definitely one of the highlights of Dark Web! Rek-Rap means well and always tries very hard to do the right thing, even if it doesn't work out in the end. I believe Peter Parker can relate.

Also, thank you for bringing Luke Cage on board. I know we have the Gang War crossover coming up, and I'm very excited about this. Luke Cage is one of my all-time favorite characters, and ever since he became Mayor of New York, I've been hoping for a big Luke Cage event.

Sprang-a-lang,
Chris Osman
Rotterdam, the Netherlands

Thanks for writing in, Chris, and thanks for reading. We also love Rek-Rap up here in the Spidey-Office. You haven't read the last of Rek-Rap, that's for sure.

Dear Nick/Spider-Office,

The last few issues of AMAZING SPIDER-MAN, where Peter absorbed the sins of Norman Osborn, was the first time I really connected with the existing status quo of the title as envisioned by Zeb Wells. I do not believe Zeb is an ill fit for Spider-Man. It's just for personal reasons, I feel he's fallen a little short of the mark.

As you can probably gather, those personal reasons are my emotional attachment to Peter and MJ and wanting to see them overcome their hardships together. Seeing Mary Jane reach out to Peter as the sins left him, really connected with me, as I have stumbled and fallen many a time only for someone to catch me and reassure me that what I've said and done was no fault of mine, but the frustration that comes from reacting to the heat of the moment.

Through a fantasy filter, Wells captured the essence of what it is like to feel all the emotions of a strained relationship or rejection, envy, obsession, possessiveness, anger. It was not a healthy look for our favorite wall-crawler, and he will strive to do better now that he has been through the worst of it, but for those few issues, the sins gave us a Spider at his most fallible and his most human.

And through it all, MJ was there--she forgave him and regardless of where she stands with him now, she remains his best friend.

While it may be some time before we see them in a romantic relationship again, I am hopeful that will happen, and I hold no ill will toward you guys if you prefer they remain apart for now, but issues like the ones Zeb and Patrick Gleason worked on here are why I have faith not everything in this world is so gray and without hope.

These are the comics Marvel makes--some want that to change, and at times, I would like that to change, but I understand why you feel that it can't. It is a philosophy that has worked well for your magazine in the fifteen or so years since OMD, so I will ask whether or not you feel there will come a time where we may see an alternate-universe title again, the likes of say, SPIDER-GIRL or RENEW YOUR VOWS, where fans of Peter and MJ as they once were, and so much more, can watch them thrive.

Because if we do, we will make you money.

In the meantime, keep telling your stories.

Matt

Thanks for writing in, Matt, and I'm glad you're enjoying the book. The moment with MJ in issue #35 was really powerful. It's funny you ask your last question about an alternate-universe Peter/MJ story… Not sure if you heard, but we announced an incredible new ULTIMATE SPIDER-MAN book by Jonathan Hickman and Marco Checchetto that spins out of the recent ULTIMATE INVASION. It's got Peter, MJ, and TWO KIDS?! You better check it out when it's on sale in January!

Dear Zeb-and-Ed-Heads,

I just finished reading ASM #36 and just had to write you all right away! What a fun read! Seeing Rek-Rap and members of the Insidious Six again provided welcome comic relief after the somewhat heavier, although extremely enjoyable, recent "Spidey's First Hunt" arc, and I'm intrigued by the mysteries Zeb and Ed are weaving in this new story arc! What is this case Rek-Rap is trying to crack? How does Peter fit into it all? What's his connection to the Re-Possessor? And not to mention the return of SILVERMANE in all his embodied splendor (well, almost…)!!! Honestly, I wasn't sure at first what to expect from a Rek-Rap-centered story, but this comic did the trick, and I am ALL IN for this ride! SPRANG-A-LANG! Cannot wait for the next installment!

Keep thwippin'!!!
Jeff Markovics
Portland, OR

Thanks for writing in again, Jeff! Hope you liked the reveal of Re-Po!!! That's all the time we have this issue, so we'll see you again in two weeks for the darkness that is racing our way in AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #42! If you think Johnny rocked this issue, wait until you see the madness waiting for you!

Keep Thwippin'!
Nick Lowe
Spider-Editor
Astoria, NY

GANG WAR

SEND LETTERS TO SPIDEYOFFICE@MARVEL.COM MARKED "OKAY TO PRINT."

THE GANG WAR CONTINUES!

NEXT:

the AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #42

FOLLOW THE WAR

NOVEMBER 2023

- ☒ ~~Amazing Spider-Man: Gang War First Strike #1~~
- ☒ ~~Luke Cage: Gang War #1~~
- ☒ ~~Spider-Woman #1~~

DECEMBER 2023

- ☒ ~~Amazing Spider-Man #39~~
- ☒ ~~Daredevil: Gang War #1~~
- ☒ ~~Luke Cage: Gang War #2~~
- ☒ ~~Miles Morales: Spider-Man #13~~
- ☒ ~~Amazing Spider-Man #40~~
- ☒ ~~Deadly Hands of Kung Fu: Gang War #1~~
- ☒ ~~Miles Morales: Spider-Man #14~~
- ☒ ~~Spider-Woman #2~~

JANUARY 2024

- ☒ ~~Amazing Spider-Man #41~~
- ☐ Daredevil: Gang War #2
- ☐ Luke Cage: Gang War #3
- ☐ Miles Morales: Spider-Man #15
- ☐ Amazing Spider-Man #42
- ☐ Spider-Woman #3
- ☐ Deadly Hands of Kung Fu: Gang War #2
- ☐ Jackpot #1

FEBRUARY 2024

- ☐ Daredevil: Gang War #3
- ☐ Amazing Spider-Man #43
- ☐ Deadly Hands of Kung Fu: Gang War #3
- ☐ Miles Morales: Spider-Man #16
- ☐ Luke Cage: Gang War #4
- ☐ Spider-Woman #4
- ☐ Amazing Spider-Man #44

MARCH 2024

- ☐ Daredevil: Gang War #4